

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A connector comprising:

a housing (10) with opposite front and rear ends and at least one cavity (11) extending between the ends, at least one insertion opening (14) extending into the front end of the housing (10) and into the cavity (11), at least one lock (12) formed inside the housing (10) substantially adjacent the cavity (11), and at least one mold-removal space (13) extending into the front end of the housing (10) and communicating with the lock (12);

a terminal fitting (30) inserted in the cavity (11) along an inserting direction (ID) and locked by the lock (12), the terminal fitting (30) being withdrawable from the cavity (11) by disengaging the lock (12) from the terminal fitting (30) with a jig insertable into the mold-removal space (13);

a retainer (40) displaceable in a direction (MD) intersecting the inserting direction (ID) of the terminal fitting (30) between a first position (FIG. 4; 6) where insertion and withdrawal of the terminal fitting (30) is permitted and a second position (FIG. 1; 3) where the retainer (30) engages and locks the terminal fitting (30) in the housing (10), the retainer (40) having a front wall (46) slidable along the front end of the housing (10), the front wall (46) having at least one through hole (47) substantially facing the insertion opening (14) when the retainer (40) is at the second position and at least one jig insertion opening (48) substantially facing the mold-removal space (13) when the retainer (40) is at the first position, wherein:

a tapered retainer-side guide (49) is formed in an area of an opening edge of each through hole (47), and the front end of the housing (10) has at least one tapered housing-side guide (15).

2. The connector of claim 1, wherein the through hole (47) and jig insertion opening (48) communicate with each other.

3. The connector of claim 2, wherein tapered retainer-side guide (49) is formed in an area of the opening edge of the through hole (47) excluding a communicating area with the jig insertion opening (48).

4. The connector of claim 3, wherein the tapered housing-side guide (15) is at the communicating area of the opening edge of the through hole (47) with the jig insertion opening (48) when the retainer (40) is at the second position.

5. The connector of claim 1, wherein guiding means (16; 50) is provided at the housing-side guide (15) and the opening edge of the jig insertion opening (48) for sliding contact with each other as the retainer (40) is displaced, the guiding means (16; 50) being substantially parallel with a sliding direction (MD) of the front wall (46).

6. The connector of claim 1, wherein a surface of the housing-side guide (15) substantially opposite the corresponding insertion opening (14) defines a slanted introducing surface (15B) substantially facing the opening edge of the jig insertion opening (48) for an adjacent cavity.

7. The connector of claim 1, wherein the front wall (46) has at least one reinforcing portion (52) projecting at an angle to a wall surface of the front wall (46) and extending substantially in a transverse direction (TD).

8. A connector comprising:

a housing (10) with front and rear ends, first and second cavities (11) spaced apart along a moving direction (MD), first and second insertion openings (14) extending into the front end and communicating with the respective first and second cavities (11), locks (12) in the housing (10) adjacent the respective cavities (11), first and second mold-removal spaces (13) extending into the front end and aligned respectively with the locks (12) of the first and second cavities (11), a housing-side guide (15) projecting at the front end between the first insertion opening (14) and the second mold-removal space (13), each said housing-side guide (15) having a guide surface (15A) aligned for guiding a mating terminal fitting into the first insertion opening (14); and

a retainer (40) displaceable in the moving direction (MD) between first (FIG. 4; 6) and second (FIG. 1; 3) positions, the retainer (40) having a front wall (46) slidable along the front end of the housing (10), a communication opening in the front wall (46) and slidably engaged with the housing-side guide (15), a through hole (47) and a jig insertion opening (48) adjacent the communication opening, the jig insertion opening (48) being aligned with the second mold-removal space (13) when the retainer (40) is at the first position and the through hole (47) being aligned with the first insertion opening (14) when the retainer (40) is at the second position, and retainer-side guides (49) adjacent said through hole (47) aligned for guiding the mating terminal fitting into the cavity (11) when the retainer (40) is at the second position.

9. The connector of claim 8, wherein the housing-side guide (15) and the communication opening have interengaged guiding surfaces (16; 50) aligned substantially parallel with the moving direction (MD).

10. The connector of claim 8, wherein the housing-side guide (15) has a slanted introducing surface (15B) substantially facing an opening edge of the second jig insertion opening (48).

11. The connector of claim 8, wherein the through hole (47) is a first through hole (47), the front wall of the retainer further having a second through hole (47) spaced from the first through hole (47) and spaced from the communication opening and the jig insertion opening (48), the second through hole (47) being aligned with the second insertion opening (14) when the retainer (40) is at the second position.

12. The connector of claim 11, wherein the first through hole (47), the communication opening, the jig insertion opening (48) and the second through hole (47) all are substantially aligned along the moving direction (MD).

13. The connector of claim 8, wherein the through hole (47) and the jig insertion opening (48) both open into communication with the communication opening.

14. A connector comprising:

a housing (10) with front and rear ends, first and second stages of cavities (11) arranged so that each said cavity (11) of the first stage is aligned with one said cavity (11) of the second stage along a moving direction (MD), insertion openings (14) extending into the front end and communicating with the respective cavities (11), locks (12) formed in the housing (10) adjacent the cavities (11), mold removal spaces (13) extending into the front end and aligned respectively with the locks (12), housing-side guides projecting from the front end between the first and second stages of cavities (11), each said housing-side guide (15) having a guide surface (15A) aligned for guiding a mating terminal fitting into one of the insertion openings (14) of the first stage of cavities (11); and

a retainer (40) displaceable in the moving direction (MD) between a first position (FIG. 4; 6) and a second position (FIG. 1; 3), the retainer (40) having a front wall (46) slidable along the front end of the housing (10), communication openings formed through the front wall (46) and slidably engaged respectively with the housing-side guides (15), through holes (47) and jig insertion openings (48) adjacent the communication openings, the jig insertion openings (48) being aligned respectively with the mold removal spaces (13) for the second stage of cavities (11) when the retainer (40) is at the first position, the through holes (47) being aligned with the insertion openings (14) for the first stage of cavities (11) when the retainer (40) is at the second position, each said through hole (47) having retainer-side guides (49) aligned for guiding the mating terminal fitting

into the corresponding cavity (11) of the first stage when the retainer (40) is at the second position.

15. The connector of claim 14, wherein the housing-side guides (15) and the communication openings have interengaged guiding surfaces (16; 50) aligned substantially parallel with the moving direction (MD).

16. The connector of claim 14, wherein the each of the housing-side guides (15) has a slanted introducing surface (15B) substantially facing an opening edge of the second jig insertion opening (48).